

**Mansfield Conservation Commission**  
**Meeting of March 28, 2002**  
**Audrey P. Beck Building, Conf. Room B**  
**7:30-9:30 PM**

This is a substitute meeting for the meeting of March 20, called on account of snow.

**Call to Order:** 7:40 PM.

**Present:**

*Members* - Robert Dahn, Robert Thorson, Mary Rodgers, Jennifer Kaufman, Quentin Kessel, Denise Burchstead, Lance Minkler, John Silander

*Staff* - Absent

*Visitors* - Jim Seversen.

**IWA Issues:**

- 1165 Guay on Pleasant Valley Road. Concerns were expressed that the pool will interfere with operations of septic system and that chlorine will threaten surface water. Not enough details were provided.
- W1166-VNA East, Ledgebrook Drive. What were the plans for stormwater discharge?
- W1167-Dzurec; brook crossing and excavation of pond in wetland. Motion made by Dahn/Kaufman that proposed excavation of a pond within a wetland is likely to have a significant negative impact on the pond. Unanimous with Thorson abstaining.
- W1168-Dressler/Weitz. Two lot subdivision off Crane Hill Road. This area was originally approved as a one lot subdivision. One of the abutters (Matos) has expressed concern. The committee believes that that a significant negative impact is likely, and recommends that (owing to the wetland crossings involved) this be considered as a single lot or that the southerly portion of the driveway be shared. Thorson agreed to examine the property.

**New Business:**

Jim Seversen, representing the Citizens For Responsible Growth (CFRG), requested information sharing and mutual participation in conservation efforts within the town. Motion by Thorson/Minkler that "In keeping with our role as defined by state statute, the Mansfield Conservation Commission appreciates the efforts of the CFRG and looks forward to specific proposals on matters of mutual interest. Unanimous.

Committee discussed Town/Gown conservation issues with respect to article by David Morse. In general, the committee viewed the article as responsible environmental journalism with the town's interest in mind. Several members felt the title was unfairly negative.

UConn Environmental Planner: The committee asked its secretary (Thorson) to send a letter on its behalf to Chancellor Petersen stating that the MCC is concerned about the search process and the role of the town.

Thorson requested that, for the sake of fairness, the town provide a funding mechanism whereby the conservation commission could investigate specific development concerns prior to reaching a decision because anecdotal, subjective opinions are sometimes a poor basis for judgment.

**Old Business:**

- Mission Statement - no comments
- Open Space - no comments
- Lands of Unique Value: Report by Minkler that agricultural lands are receiving emphasis.
- Town Water Study: Denise Burchstead reports that the consultant (Milone and McBroom) is unclear what the town wants with respect to Separatist Road and Landfill issues.
- General concern by the committee that development follows water supply
- Comments on Fredrick, Maryland, where water supply has brought development to a halt.
- Council for Environmental Quality Draft Memo: no comment.
- NEMO Project: no comment
- Level A Mapping of Fenton River Well Field: Thorson will review report by Legette Brashears and Graham.
- UCONN Landfill: Members expressed concern that the landfill remains uncapped.
- Downtown Storrs Master Plan. Discussion but not comment.